

**INFORMATION REPORT**

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25X1A

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 4 FEB 1952

SUBJECT Establishment of Chinese Communist  
Truck and Tractor Factory

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. The Automotive Industry Preparatory Division of the Ministry of Heavy Industry has completed all preparations for establishing at Tientsin the first automobile factory in Communist China. The factory building has been completed and machinery has been installed; production is expected to begin in early 1952.
2. This factory will be a medium-sized (sic) automobile manufacturing plant producing heavy trucks and tractors for agricultural use. It will be run entirely on national capital, but this will not prohibit the purchase of castings, electrical parts, rubber articles, glass, etc. from experienced factories run by private capital. Equipment for this factory will be made in China whenever possible; machinery which cannot be produced in China will be ordered from the USSR or from Czechoslovakia.
3. The technical staff for this factory will be built around the 18 officers now working in the Automotive Industry Preparatory Division; their number will be supplemented by graduates from various schools within China plus three technical advisors from the Molotov Automobile Factory in the USSR. An Automotive Industry Technical Cadres Training Class has also been organized. This factory now employs 40 technicians and over 340 skilled workers.
4. Production initially will be confined to two and one-half ton trucks and a 45-horsepower tractor. The two and one-half ton truck will have a gross weight of not more than five tons and will be adapted to existing equipment. After this truck is in production, a three and one-half ton model will be added. The 45-horsepower tractor will have caterpillar treads. The laboratories of this factory are actively investigating the

25X1A

Comment. The Ministry of Heavy Industry called a meeting of the automotive industry in June 1950. At this meeting it was decided to establish an Automotive Industry Preparatory Division within the Ministry of Heavy Industry to be responsible for planning development of the automotive industry in China and to be responsible for constructing the

25X1A

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25X1A

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-2-

first factory. When this first factory is completed that Division will be expanded into the Automotive Industry Administration.

Both East China and Northeast China plan to construct automotive factories, but implementation of these plans will be included in the Basic Reconstruction Project for 1952, and will not be commenced until then.

25X1A

Comment. In a report on industry in North China, [redacted] stated that a huge automobile factory is being built in a town identified only as Shitaochuan, in Hopeh. With the exception of sheet metal, this plant is expected to produce everything from bolts to rubber tires. Completion is expected in 1953.

25X1A

25X1A

[redacted] reports that the Tientsin Motor Repair and Installation Plant is producing a four cylinder water-cooled engine with specifications which indicate that it would be suitable for use in light to medium vehicles.

A recent radio release from Communist China reported that two Jeeps, made entirely in China, have been turned out by the Tientsin Motor Vehicle Repair and Assembly Factory.

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